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TO

Name: Examiner Diem K. CAO

Firm: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Fax No.: (571) 273-8300

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Subject: Draft Claim

Appln. No.: 10/082,591

FROM

Name: Venk Krishnamoorthy, Ph.D.

Phone No.: (650) 849-6751

Fax # Verified by: clb

 # Pages (incl. this): 2

Date: April 6, 2006

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Confirmation Copy to Follow: N

Message:

Examiner Cao:

Please find attached a proposed amendment for claim 1 for discussion purposes only. Please give me a call at 650-849-6751 if I can be of any further assistance before our telephonic interview on Tuesday, April 11, 2006 at 10:00 am PDT.

Thank you,

Venk Krishnamoorthy, Ph.D.

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1. (Currently Amended) A method in a <u>software</u> system for flexibly altering software component behavior, the method comprising:

intercepting a service request made by a software component;

dynamically selecting at least one desired behavior from among several behaviors for the software component, the desired behavior being specified for the software component by at least one dynamically alterable condition dependent rule<u>,</u> <u>where the evaluation of the at least one dynamically alterable condition dependent rule depends on one or more of a present software system state, a past software system state, a prior evaluation of the dynamically alterable condition dependent rule, and original data in the service request;</u> and

~~dynamically~~ controlling the software component such that the software component executes the <u>dynamically selected</u> desired behavior.